

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

26 AUGUST 1964 50X1
~~TOP SECRET~~

26

1. South Vietnam

a. The Military Revolutionary Council, meeting to pick a new chief of state, has recessed until tonight.

[REDACTED]

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b. Khanh had been confident of his re-election, but there are reports of dissatisfaction within the MRC [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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50X1

c. Khanh said yesterday that the MRC would dissolve itself, and that the new chief executive would be free to pick his own ministers, the judiciary, and a provisional assembly. This arrangement, he said, was endorsed by Buddhist leader Tri Quang, the master mind behind the Buddhist/student campaign.

d. Tri Quang appears determined to be the ultimate source of power--without responsibility. Yesterday he told a US Embassy official that, if Khanh were overthrown or not elected today, the Buddhists would oppose Khanh's successor.

2. Cyprus

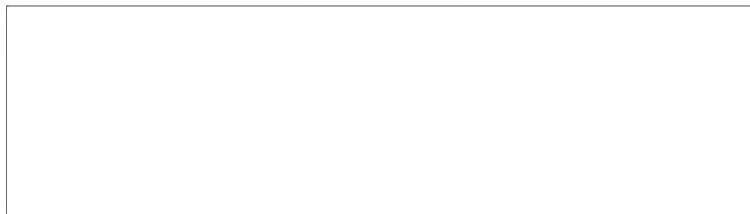
a. Although Papandreou had said he planned to "deal forcefully" with Makarios in Athens yesterday, Makarios would appear again to have come out on top. We do not yet, however, have the full story.

b. He has assurances of Greek military support in the event of another Turkish attack as well as reaffirmation of the decision to submit the Cyprus question to the UN General Assembly. In return he called off Cypriot Foreign Minister Kyprianou's pending trip to Moscow.

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(Cont'd)

e. On the island, the situation is no better, although present military activity is minimal.



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g. The economic blockade against the Turkish Cypriots remains a serious problem. Water supplies have been eased, but fuel is short and Greek Cypriot leaders are not cooperating with UN representatives.



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3. Congo

a. The security situation continues bleak, particularly in the northeast, although there is no new information on a rebel advance downriver beyond Bumba.

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b. Another attack on Bukavu may be in the offing. On Monday, a rebel force of some 1,000 was reported moving toward Luvungi, 30 miles to the south.

c. On Monday night, Rwandan troops stood off an attack by a small Congolese rebel-Tutsi refugee force 15 miles south of Bukavu.

d. The Katangan rail center at Kabalo may again be in rebel hands, cutting off a small government force moving toward Albertville from Kabalo.

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e.

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President Kasavubu has asked for an OAU council meeting no later than 5 September.

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(Cont'd)

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h. Tshombé is trying to drum up support among the radical African states by sending a mission to Ghana, Mali, Algeria, Egypt, and Morocco. The mission head, however, may have a foot in both Congolese camps.

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i. The Belgians have passed on their version of secret talks in Belgium with Christophe Gbenye, titular head of the CNL, who left for Burundi Monday night. Gbenye was earlier said to have had a "plan" to end Congolese hostilities, but, according to the Belgian account, nothing concrete emerged.

j. The Belgians are holding their session with Gbenye close to their chests for the time being. Ambassador MacArthur suggests that they hope to induce Gbenye to take a moderate position--contrasted to that of other rebel leaders, a possibly useful safeguard for Western interests if the OAU insists on treating with the Congolese rebels as well as with Tshombé.

(Cont'd)

k. The Belgians are increasingly irked with Tshombé and say that if he continues to alienate other African states he is headed for a showdown with Brussels. They also say that the Congolese are recruiting mercenaries in Belgium itself and they are worried about domestic and international reaction.

l. Moscow is stepping up its propaganda harassment of the Tshombé regime and of US and Belgian "armed intervention." Peiping, in its continuing barrage, is exploiting the arrival of South African aircraft and mercenaries.

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4. Cuba

a. Cuba is attempting to maintain an official presence in Chile despite the break in relations.

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(Cont'd)

c. We hear that Cuba's 1965 economic plan will call for a cut in imports--from the one billion pesos originally planned to 830 million pesos, slightly less than expected 1964 expenditures. Purchases from nonbloc countries are to be a special target in this cutback.

d. With sugar prices down, Cuban foreign exchange is tighter; moreover, a general effort is being made to straighten out foreign purchasing.

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5. Chile

a. Observers in Santiago generally expect that Christian Democrat Senator Frei will win the 4 September presidential election.

b. There is concern, however, that the margin will be close and that this will lead to charges that the Communist-Socialist candidate, Senator Allende, was counted out. In this event Allende followers might resort to violence.

6. India

a. Nationwide demonstrations led by the pro-Moscow wing of the Indian Communist Party are scheduled to continue through tomorrow--with a followup 24-hour work stoppage in September when Parliament is in session.

(Cont'd)

b. The Shastri government has moved swiftly to meet this challenge, but will meet a new one when the "leftist" Communists mount their own demonstrations on 31 August.

c. We see no appreciable relief for New Delhi's food/price problem until after the October harvest.